

**GOVERNOR'S WORKFORCE BOARD RI
YOUTH DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE
MARCH 7, 2013**

MINUTES

Committee Members Present: Robin Coia, Chair, Brandon Melton, Sharon Moylan, Pheamo Witcher

GWB Staff Present: Rick Brooks, Elizabeth Jardine, Dan Brown, Sherri Carello, Maureen Mooney

DLT Staff Present: Carlos Ribeiro, Sharon Geoffrey

Others Present: Anne Walsh and Adrianna Goode, Workforce Solutions of Providence/Cranston; Irena Nedeljkovic, Economic Progress Institute

Location: RI Department of Labor & Training, Conference room 73-2

Chair's Call to Order

Chair Coia welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order at 8:32 a.m.

Minutes of the Youth Development Committee

Chair Coia asked for a review of the meeting minutes of the 9-27-12 Governor's Workforce Board Youth Development Committee (YDC). She asked for a motion to approve the meeting minutes.

VOTE: B. Melton motioned to approve the minutes of the Youth Development Committee meeting as presented. S. Moylan seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous, the motion passed.

Chair Coia asked Robert Ricci of Workforce Solutions of Providence/Cranston and Nancy Olson of the Workforce Partnership of Greater Rhode Island (WPGRI) to provide an overview of the YouthWORKS 411 System. Chair Coia stated that this information will provide committee members with important information for the votes that would be presented later in the meeting.

The presentation included an overview of the Youth Center System including a review of the primary workforce services as well as ancillary services. The benefits of having a well-functioning youth system in place were discussed. Examples were provided including being ready to respond to short term opportunities for funding including ARRA, Jobs Now, DHS summer youth funds and a GWB Jobs Initiative with Electric Boat. It was reported that the State of Rhode Island serves as a model for youth centers and has been recognized nationally. Information was provided on the history of the youth centers with funding from both the Workforce Investment Act (WIA) and Job Development Funds (JDF). There was discussion about the restrictions relating to WIA funding and how the JDF supports an all youth agenda. Information was presented on the returns on investment for the Youth Centers and the summer youth employment program. Historical information on the JDF summer programs, WIA program requirements, and WIA performance standards was reviewed. A listing of employers engaged for the 2012 worksites was included in the handout representing more than 200 companies and 18 industry sectors. The presentation concluded with a review of the 2012 JDF summer outcomes and benchmarks and a comparison of YouthWORKS411 alignments with the GWB Strategic Plan goals for youth and the GWB Biennial Plan priorities.

At the end of the presentation, Chair Coia asked for a review of the two funding requests on behalf of the local WIBs. It was stated that a statewide allocation for the Youth Centers in the amount of \$500,000 will serve 2100 youth. It was stated that in response to the summer RFP, the local WIBs

received successful requests for \$2,100,000 to serve 1,500 youth. The local WIBS are requesting \$1,500,000 for the summer work experience program which will increase the number of youth served from 774 to 1100.

Chair Coia thanked N. Olson and R. Ricci for the excellent presentation.

FY2014 – JDF Youth Center Funding Request - \$500K

Chair Coia asked if there was a motion to recommend funding in the amount of \$500,000 to fund the Youth Centers for fiscal year 2014.

VOTE: B. Melton motioned to approve the funding request as presented. P. Witcher seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous, the motion passed.

FY2014 Summer Work Experience Program \$1.5M

Chair Coia asked if there was a motion to recommend funding in the amount of \$1.5M for the FY14 Summer Work Experience Program.

VOTE: S. Moylan motioned to approve the funding request as presented. B. Melton seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous, the motion passed.

Chair Coia stated that the recommendation would be brought to the next Strategic Investments & Evaluation Committee meeting.

March 14th Meeting with Employers (Youth Internships)

Chair Coia commented that the agenda for a March 14th meeting to discuss 2012 summer and school year internships was in the meeting packet for review. She mentioned that some of the employers who received incumbent worker training grants in 2012 would be in attendance to learn about the youth center system and to provide feedback on the internship programs.

Chair Coia indicated there would be representatives from the Local Workforce Investment Boards available to provide information on youth center services. She noted that managers from several of the local youth centers would be in attendance as well to provide information and answer questions.

Electric Boat Summer Employment Program

Chair Coia asked Adrianna Goode to provide an overview of the Electric Boat Summer Employment Program. A. Goode spoke about the previous summer's program and mentioned that 8 were offered fulltime employment at the end of the 10 week program. She noted that 4 have fulltime employment and that 4 decided on furthering their education. She stated that applicants must pass a physical and a drug test and that there are 12 openings for youth for this year's program. A. Goode mentioned that Electric Boat is in the midst of the recruiting process for this summer's program. She noted that Electric Boat has expanded the program to include veterans which is planned for a June 24th start.

Adjournment

With no further business, Chair Coia asked for a motion to adjourn.

VOTE: B. Melton moved to approve. S. Moylan seconded the motion.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:06 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Maureen Mooney